

REMARKS

In response to the non-final office action of August 9, 2006, applicant asks that all claims be allowed in view of the amendment to the claims and the following remarks.

Claims 6-36 and 39-97 are currently pending, of which claims 36, 39, 44, 53-55, 64-66 and 73 are independent. New claims 98-113 have been added. Claims 39, 40, 44, 54 and 65 have been amended. Support for these amendments may be found in the application at, for example, page 29, lines 17-24 and Figure 7. No new matter has been introduced.

Applicant would like to thank Examiner Pesin for the courtesies extended to applicant's representatives during the telephone interview conducted on September 14, 2006.¹ This reply reflects the substance of the interview.

Allowed Claims and Allowable Subject Matter

Applicant acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication that claims 6-36, 44-53, 55-64 and 66-90 are allowed. The amendment to allowed claim 44 corrects an informality noticed by applicant.

Applicant also acknowledges with appreciation the Examiner's indication that dependent claim 40 would be allowable if written in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicant has rewritten this claim in independent form including all limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims as new independent claims 110-113.

New Claims 98-108 and 110-113

New independent claims 110-113 recite subject matter previously deemed allowable with regard to dependent claim 40, and do so in the context of a computer-implemented method (new independent claim 110), a computer-readable medium (new independent claim 111), a computer-based system (new independent claim 112) and a computer-implemented system (new

¹ An Examiner's Interview Summary was mailed on October 4, 2006.

independent claim 113). As such, applicant submits claims 110-113 are in condition for allowance.

New independent claims 98 and 99 recite subject matter previously deemed allowable as claims 44 and 73, but in the context of a computer-implemented system (new claim 98) and a computer-based system (new claim 99). As such, applicant submits claims 98 and 99 are in condition for allowance.

New dependent claims 100-108 depend from claim 99 and recite subject matter similar to dependent claims 74-82. For at least the reasons of that dependency and the reasons noted above with respect to claim 99, applicant submits claims 100-108 are in condition for allowance.

Rejection of Claims 39, 41-43, 54, 65 and 91-97 Under Section 103

Claims 39, 41-43, 54, 65 and 91-97 have been rejected as being unpatentable over Doss (U.S. Patent No. 6,731,323) in view of Enright (U.S. Patent No. 6,583,813). Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Doss and Enright, either alone or in combination, do not describe or suggest all of the features of these claims. For example, neither Doss, Enright, nor any proper combination describe or suggest determining whether the user identity is permitted to perform a proposed modification based on delegation information associated with the category that the user identity is associated with, the determination being made after receiving the proposed modification, as recited by amended independent claims 39, 54 and 65.

Independent claim 39 recites a computer-implemented method that provides notification information corresponding to a communication identity. The method includes, *inter alia*, receiving, from a user identity associated with a category of multiple categories, a proposed modification of notification setting information and accessing delegation information that is associated with the category. A determination is made as to whether the user identity is permitted to perform the proposed modification based on the delegation information associated with the category. The determination is made after receiving the proposed modification.

The action acknowledges that "Doss does not teach accessing delegation information associated with the category; determining whether the user identity is permitted to perform the

modification based on the delegation information associated with the category; and only permitting the modification to the notification setting information when the user identity is permitted to perform the modification.” See action at page 4, lines 4-8. For this feature, the action relies on Enright.

Enright discloses a system for automatically capturing image sequences near automated banking machines (ATMs). See Enright at Abstract. When a triggering event, such as motion, occurs near the ATM machine, Enright’s system may provide remote notification via email to selected persons. See Enright at col. 4, lines 28-31 and col. 6, lines 4-8. Enright’s system includes three categories of users—“administrator,” “operator,” and “service.” See Enright at col. 35, lines 7-11. Each category of user is permitted to perform certain activities on the system. See Enright at col. 35, lines 11-14 and FIG. 16 (showing, for example, that only users in the “administrator” group may set access rights for other users and specify which email addresses will receive system-written messages).

As such, Enright describes a system in which a user may only perform activities that are permitted for the category to which the user belongs. Thus, Enright does not describe or suggest determining whether a user identity is permitted to perform a proposed modification of notification of setting information, where the determination is made based on delegation information associated with a category with which the user identity is associated and where *the determination is made after receiving the proposed modification*, as recited by claim 39.

Accordingly, Doss, Enright, or any proper combination of these references, does not describe or suggest determining whether the user identity is permitted to perform the modification based on the delegation information associated with the category, the determination being made after receiving the modification, as recited by claim 39. For at least these reasons, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 39.

Independent claims 54 and 65 recite similar features in the context of a computer-readable medium (claim 54) and a computer-based system (claim 65). Accordingly, for the reasons noted above with respect to independent claim 39, applicant requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 54 and 65.

New Claim 109

New independent claim 109 recites subject matter similar to claim 39 and does so in the context of a computer-based system. At least for the reasons noted above with respect to independent claim 39, applicant submits that claim 109 is allowable.

Conclusion

It is believed that all of the pending issues have been addressed. However, the absence of a reply to a specific rejection, issue or comment does not signify agreement with or concession of that rejection, issue or comment. In addition, because the arguments made above may not be exhaustive, there may be reasons for patentability of any or all pending claims (or other claims) that have not been expressed. Finally, nothing in this reply should be construed as an intent to concede any issue with regard to any claim, except as specifically stated in this reply, and the amendment of any claim does not necessarily signify concession of unpatentability of the claim prior to its amendment.

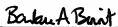
Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance.

A fee in the amount of \$1850 for excess claims is being paid concurrently herewith on the Electronic Filing System (EFS) by way of Deposit Account authorization.

No additional fee is believed due. Please apply any other charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

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